PTO/SB/30 (09-03) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0851-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Request Application Number 09/832,827 For Filing Date April 12, 2001 Continued Examination (RCE) First Named Inventor Martin Kowatsch Transmittal Address to: 2874 Art Unit Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents Examinor Name Pak, Sung H. P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Attomey Docket Number AVAN/000219USA This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. 1.114 Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s). a. Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_ ☐ Other 11. b. . X Enclosed iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Amendment/Reply Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iv. Dother Miscellaneous 2 Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(i) required) Other Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. 1.114 when the RCE is filed. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 20-0782/AVAN/000219USA RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e) Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. 1.138 and 1.17) li. Other iii b. Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_ enclosed c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed) WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

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This collection of Information is required by 37-CFR 1.114. The Information is required to obtain or retain a benefil by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mall Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-

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